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Title: Crawworth Expedition - Day 8

Author:

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We've moved away from the waters and headed deeper into the abysmal plains that seem to surround us now. We've seen more of the one eyed beasts, though only from a distance as we

have purposely avoided them. Of Snake men, we've seen no more. But we've run across the second of the warring races, and now the comments tha Enas made in the first village, and the stories of the villagers in the second village are finally coming together.

The group at war with the snake men, which Enas tells me the villagers call Ophidians, are the Terrathans, or Spider People. We have not encountered a group of these up close either, but Enas and I sat quietly on an outcropping and watched a group of them travel together towards what we assume to be one of their lairs. They are hideous, and make me long for the comfort of my own home. The upper portions of their bodies are much like men, two arms, two hands, a broad chest, and a head. But from the waist down these beings are pure spider. Their thick, bloated bodies make me ill, and I can't imagine how I'd feel if one of

them touched me with it's hairy legs.

I was ready to join CrawWorth and Dresler again, who were resting together while Dresler redrew some of his maps (CrawWorth seems tired much more than he should be, perhaps he is becoming ill), but Enas wanted to stay behind and make more sketches. He promised to meet us in just a few minutes, and I set out to find my way back to our encampment. But it was not to be. Just seconds after leaving his company, I heard Enas scream in terror. I started to return to his side as quickly as I could, but before I could take a step I could see the spider people on all sides of him. Disgusted by their horrendous form I made my way back to CrawWorth and Dresler, and crying I told them of what had happened. CrawWorth drew his sword and demanded that I lead him to the place where Enas was captured, despite my reluctance to return. When we arrived we found nothing except the papers and pictures that Enas had drawn. These I took and folded them neatly into my pack. CrawWorth would not be stopped though. Using his limited training in the woodland arts he began following their trail back to their lair. Both Dresler and I argued that this would be suicide, but he would hear no more of it. We reached the lair as darkness fell. Fortunately, there was a ring of trees around the

clearing where the Terrathan's gathered. We watched as they stripped Enas of his clothes and went through his pack, destroying most of what he carried. His ink and quill were thrown into a fire, and he was to follow. They slit his throat with his own dagger and began feasting on his still warm corpse. CrawWorth would have rushed them, I believe, but when I turned to see his reaction he was gone. Dresler and I made our way back away from the spider people and found CrawWorth spitting up blood a few feet away. He is very sick, and neither Dresler nor I know what to do.....